

PATENT
02579-P0027B WWW/DWA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicants | Guy E. Horne, Jr., <i>et al.</i> |
| Application No. 10/766,295 | Filing Date: January 27, 2004 |
| Title of Application: | Composite Flexible Endoscope Insertion Shaft With Tubular Substructure |
| Confirmation No. 9340 | Art Unit: 3739 |
| Examiner | |

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement by Applicants

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant lists the following references (copies of the listed patents and papers enclosed). This IDS is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(c)(1). Applicant states, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication (copy enclosed) from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. Applicant believes that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this IDS. However, if any fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-4516.

| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Exam. Initials | Class/ Subclass. | Document No. | Date | Name |
| | 600/139 | 2002/0028984 | Mar. 7, 2002 | Hayakawa et al. |
| | 128/662.06 | 5,388,584 | Feb. 14, 1995 | King |
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Page 2
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Information Disclosure Statement

| Foreign Patent Documents | | | |
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| Exam. Initials | Document No. | Date | Country |
| | JP9024019 | Jan. 28, 1997 | Japan (With English Translation) |
| | WO 93/04722 | Mar. 18, 1993 | PCT |
| | | | |

| Other Documents | |
|-------------------|---|
| Exam. Initials | Description (Author, Title, Date, Pages, etc) |
| | English Translation of Japanese Office Action (3 pages) |
| | October 17, 2006 |
| | |

The listed patents pertain in a general way to the subject matter of the application, but are not necessarily considered to be analogous prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

January 17, 2006

/s/

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